

The Swordfish Challenge

General Information

Captain's Meeting: September 27th, 2024 at North Palm Beach Marina, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
(Registration and Calcutta)

Awards Dinner: T.B.D., 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Fishing Days: Choose three days between September 28th and December 1st

Fishing Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset, daytime only

Boundaries: From 27.30.00 latitude (Ft. Pierce Inlet area) to 25.35.00 latitude (Fowey Light)
and no further offshore than 079.30.00 longitude

Boats can depart from any inlet between Ft. Pierce and Miami

Weigh-ins will be held at Sailfish Marina Stuart, Jib Club, North Palm Beach Marina, Lighthouse Point, Port Everglades, and Miami Beach Marina

Calcutta Divisions

- **Top Release Points:**
 - 1st place: 50%
 - 2nd place: 30%
 - 3rd place: 20%
 - Prize: \$500
- **Heaviest Overall:**
 - 1st place: 70%
 - 2nd place: 30%
 - Prize: \$500

- **Overall Total Points:**
 - 1st place: 50%
 - 2nd place: 30%
 - 3rd place: 20%
 - Prize: \$500
- **Heaviest Pomfret/Deep Water Creature:**
 - \$200

Fishing Regulations

- Boats may use both electric and conventional tackle
- One hook per rod
- All lines must remain attached to the boat/rod
- Fish must be greater than 47 inches in length to qualify for weigh-in
- Fish caught on conventional tackle can be fought from the holder
- Leader attached to the hook cannot exceed 10 feet in length
- Mutilated fish will not be eligible for weigh-in (including shark bites)
- Boats must declare their fishing plans the day prior to fishing

Catch Validation

- The Swordfish Challenge will utilize video catch verification for all participating boats
- Each team will be prompted to show a phone or GPS with date and time, clearly stating the word of the day, and presenting the provided catch card (available at the captain's meeting)
- The word of the day must be announced clearly in the videos
 - Video release verification is required for all participating boats; videos must be texted or emailed to Daniel no later than four hours after returning from fishing (561-665-1613 or Jupiterbillfish@gmail.com)
- Videos must clearly capture the species of fish during the fight and release of each fish; failure to qualify species and release of fish will result in disqualification

Point Structure & Scoring

- Release points will be awarded as follows:
 - 75 points for a released swordfish on electric reels
 - 1 point per pound for fish caught on electric reels
 - Fish weighed on conventional tackle will earn 1.1 points per pound
 - In case of a tie, the winner will be determined by which boat/angler reaches the tied score first by time
 - The decision of the Tournament Committee is final

General Requirements

- Boats and anglers must comply with all state and federal fishing regulations and licensing requirements; failure to do so may result in disqualification
- All boats must carry a valid HMS permit
- Refunds: No refunds will be given for entry fees due to any reason, including but not limited to acts of nature, war, national security, Covid-19, vessel malfunctions, or travel restrictions; Calcutta fees will be returned (minus a service fee) if a team is unable to compete